

Saturday 9/20/2025

8:00 – 9:30 a.m.

Anissa R. Nierenberger RPR, CRR, CRC, CRI, B.S. Realtime Reporting

0.15 CEUs

NCRA Learning Objective: Sections 3.01, 3.04

TITLE: Stop the BS; Resolving Boundaries and Stacking Issues! –

Course Description:

As if realtime isn't challenging enough, we have boundary and stacking problems! Stacking always wins. Anissa is a "pro" stacker! She's resolved over 400 issues in her 30-year captioning career, and she'll show you how to fix common issues with "ago," "to do" and many others. We will examine and fix boundary issues that have been plaguing you!

BREAK: 9:30 – 9:45 a.m.

0.15 CEUs

NCRA Learning Objective: Sections 3.02.

9:45 – 11:15 a.m.

TITLE: Just Okay is Not Okay – While realtime does not mean perfection, how do you know if your realtime is a sellable product?

Course Description:

We'll examine real-world examples of the good, great, and just okay. Just because you can read through it, doesn't mean that your clients can! Anissa will debunk software untranslate rate myths. You'll no longer feel "in the dark" regarding realtime standards.

BIO:

ABOUT ANISSA • 30-year Captioner • Dictionary Jumpstart Founder • LearnToRealtime Instructor • STENOphonatic® Creator Anissa (u NEE suh) Nierenberger is a certified professional realtime trainer. She has fun helping reporters boost their realtime skills so that they can continue to keep up with the rapid pace of technology and make more money! As a very young girl, Anissa became intrigued with typewriters when she first

saw and heard a blue IBM Selectric typewriter at her dentist office. During a high school career day with a court reporter, she saw a steno machine and knew that steno was going to be her passion! Her career includes three decades of captioning news, sports and tech captioning at Facebook and Amazon. She has researched and created Dictionary Jumpstart, the only dictionary building program in the industry. DJ consists of 10 modules containing over 165,000 words that can be added to your dictionary at 1,000 words per hour! Over 1600 stenographers have successfully attained their realtime goals and certifications after training with Anissa. Reporters turn to Anissa when they're ready to upgrade their careers! Anissa is the author of four books that help reporters write shorter by learning brief families. Most recently Anissa has created STENOphonatic, the first word building card game in English and steno.

BREAK: 11:15 – 11:25 a.m.

11:25 – 12:25 p.m.

0.1 CEUs

NCRA Learning Objective Sections 3.01 e, f, h; 3.02 a; 3.04 g; 3.05 b, e; 3.08 c; 3.09 b; 3.10 c.

LEAH WILLERSDORF

TITLE: ✈️ Beyond the Boarding Pass: The Realities of Working Worldwide ✈️

Course Description:

This session isn't about being based in the US and taking the occasional assignment abroad. It's about living in a region where cross-country travel is the norm - on at least a monthly basis, it's just business as usual for Leah. Think interstate travel in the US but with the cultural, economic, and logistical headaches that can quickly become overwhelming.

At the end of the day, having your steno machine in your hands and a passport in your pocket isn't just about going to a destination; it's about navigating the travel complexities, country regulations, and ever-changing schedules. If you think it's just another trip, think again. For those of us living it, it's a challenge that shapes how we work, adapt, and succeed every single day.

If you've ever been tempted by the shiny promise of a(n) assignment(s) or a life that comes with passport stamps and air miles, come and discover how this isn't just about booking a flight, carefully packing your steno machine and fulfilling what's on the job

sheet. Let's talk about what's really waiting for you before and beyond the boarding pass.

Spoiler: It's not all lounge access, Champagne, and window seats.

1. Build the confidence and skills to handle the challenges that often come with working internationally, ranging from travel logistics/issues, equipment issues whilst abroad, and more.
2. Through Leah's real-life (and occasionally unfortunate) experiences on assignments internationally, gain insight into what *can* go wrong - and how to handle it calmly and professionally.
3. Leave with a clear understanding that international work is about far more than just sitting behind the steno machine with your fingers poised.

Bio:

Leah is an Australian realtime stenographer who has called London home since 1995. Certified in three countries - the US, UK, and Australia - she holds the RMR, CRR, and CCRR American certifications. Leah's reporting career began in Adelaide in 1992, after completing a two-year diploma in Court & Parliamentary Reporting in her hometown of Brisbane. Since then, she's been travelling the globe with her steno machine in her hand and passport in her pocket.

Leah served on the Council of the British Institute of Verbatim Reporters for 11 years, was President for four, and is the Institute's current Media Liaison. She is also the Communication & Social Media contact for "Tiro – The Journal of Professional Reporting and Transcription," an Intersteno online periodical.

With continents, countries, and countless cities under her belt, Leah has enjoyed plenty of career highs along the way. But it's not all rainbows and butterflies - every now and then, things go wrong. And sometimes very wrong.

Come take a trip down Leah's Memory Lane to cities around the world and discover how she overcame some unexpected challenges.

BREAK: 12:25 – 12:35 a.m.

12:35 – 1:35 p.m.

0.1 CEUs

NCRA Learning Objective Sections 3.02 h, 3.10 a

Sonia Trevino

TITLE: Paying It Forward: Mentoring Our Future Reporters

Course Description:

Mentoring our future reporters is one of the most rewarding experiences you will ever have. Once you dip your court reporting fingers into helping someone reach certification, you will keep doing it and discovering ways to help those you mentor get to where they need to be.

It can be challenging at times. A lot of the coaching, per se, comes from having to reiterate over and over again that this skill is very doable. One of the hardest things to say to any future reporter is: You will fail in school more often than you pass. Keep going! It's those final passes for certification that erase all the times you didn't reach the goal.

Join me for this informative session and dig into what exactly mentoring is and how you can truly make a difference in the lives of our future reporters and our profession. Each one of us has the ability to make a difference. Come learn ways to pay it forward by giving back to our students.

Bio:

Sonia G. Trevino graduated Roy Miller High School Del Mar College received her Texas CSR in February of 1983 and worked throughout the court system in Texas from September 1983 – 1984. Sonia became a part-time freelance reporter in 1985 in addition to working within the court system. Sonia retired from court in 2024 and began working at Del Mar College as an instructor of court reporting in August 2024. She has been a member of NCRA, served from 2023-2024 PAC Committee, is a member of the Texas Court Reporters Association and from 2022-2023 Immediate Past President and 2021-2022 was President, 2020-2021 Vice President of Public Relations 2017-2019 Area Director, Seat 5, 2018-2019 Student Committee Chair 2009-2010 - Student Committee 2011-2012 – Public Liaison, 2012 -2015 - Chair, Advertising Coastal Bend Court Reporters Association, 2005-2006 – President, Bexar County Court Reporter's Association from 2025-Present

Sonia has received various certificates of appreciation for appearing as a speaker. Recognized for work as Area Director (November 2017) Texas Jazz Festival 2018 and TCRA Above and Beyond 2019. Sonia's other professional involves include St. Mary's

School of Law trial advocacy finals, confidence dictation sessions, began the best of the best future court reporters Facebook page, I am Team Steno Facebook Group, regularly participates in events to promote court reporting, from career days, college nights and job fairs. Her published materials and presentations include the StenoCAT Users Network, Code of Ethics; Dallas Court Reporters Association Code of Ethics; Speaker, 2010 Student Track, Annual Convention Speaker, 2016 CE Session, Annual Convention; The Texas Record: The Jaye Thompson Scholarship (2007) ; The Texas Record: Use Caution When Applying for the Jaye Thompson Scholarship (2008); The Texas Record: Zumba: Fast on Our Fingers, Fast on Our Toes (2008) The Texas Record: Growing Up Ruben (2009).

Break 1:35 – 1:40 p.m.

Working Lunch

1:45 – 2:45 p.m.

0.1 CEUs

NCRA Learning Objective Sections 3.08 a

Anna Mar-Lazo, Texas CSR, RPR

TITLE: Networking Your Way to Making a Difference

Course Description:

This presentation will touch on ways to build a community and how to make a difference in the profession starting from the bottom up.

Social Media.

Having been forced to network exclusively online during COVID, I will share ways that I built my community using social media and a little courage.

Conferences.

The next step in networking is meeting your fellow colleagues. What better way than to attend conferences. I will touch on the importance of attending conferences, whether in person or virtual and how to stand out to grow your network.

Students.

At the heart of what I do is always the students. They are the future of the profession. I will share ways to connect, mentor, and help students in an effortless way.

Bio: Freelance Texas CSR four years based out of San Antonio, Texas.

2:45 – 2:50 Break

2:50 – 4:30 p.m.

.15 CEUs

NCRA Learning Objections Section 3.08f

Debbie Dibble CSR, RPR, RMR, RDR, CRR, CRC (CBC & CCP), SCC, RCC, RSA certificate

TITLE: The Best Defense is a GREAT Offense: Be Your Own Advocate!

Course Description:

YOU are the greatest resource, the greatest asset our profession has. Invited speaker Debbie Dibble, FAPR, RDR, CRR, CRC, CSR/CCR, will walk you through the risks and liabilities created by artificial recording and new technologies taking the world by storm and being implemented without thought for the true ramifications and disastrous results that may result. In this session you will learn what new vulnerabilities are being created by technologies, and how best practices by stenographic court reporters can protect our court systems and the rights of citizens. Please come learn how you can and must advocate for our profession. We are the weapons.

Bio:

Debra A. Dibble, has been a reporter since 1988, realtime and broadcast captioning. She is a Certified Shorthand Reporter (UT, CA, NV, TX, WA, TN, NM, HI, LA) Fellow of the Academy of Professional Reporters, Registered Professional Reporter, Registered Merit Reporter, Registered Diplomat Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter, Certified Broadcast Captioner, Certified Cart Provider, National Speed Competition, National Realtime Competition, Realtime Systems Administrator and has traveled.

Debbie has presented at many of our state associations and NCRA, including the NCRA bootcamp, and has varied legislative experience marching on the Hill in D.C. and speaking with her own state legislators. She has spent countless hours serving on

various committees in service of us, her court reporter friends and colleagues, staying abreast of the latest happenings in our industry.

Debbie was a member of the NCRA STRONG Committee and was instrumental in writing the White Paper regarding AI. She and her committee members served under their own auspices, paying out-of-pocket to make sure we all know what is happening. When a past president of NCRA disbanded the STRONG Committee Debbie and the other members of STRONG created Jeopardizing Justice in order to continue learning about AI and ASR and how it will impact the court reporting committee, educating countless “powers-that-be” and continuing to share the knowledge they learn with multiple state associations, legislators, courts, judges, attorneys and, really, anyone who wants to listen and learn.

4:30 – 4:40 BREAK

4:40 – 5:40 p.m

.1 CEUs

NCRA Learning Objections Section 3.08c, e

**Josie Hoffman, CFP® CRPC™, ChSNC®, CPFA®, Assistant Vice President;
Wealth Management Advisor, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc.**

TITLE: Living our best life. A roadmap to retirement planning success.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This roadmap has been designed to help you better understand the biggest challenges associated with planning for retirement. It reviews some of the key considerations and provides links to resources that will help you and your Merrill advisor more accurately and effectively plan for tomorrow.

Bio:

Josie entered the investments industry in 2003 and partnered with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management in 2005. She graduated from Pensacola Christian College in 2002 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing and a minor in Finance. She also received a Master’s Degree in Management and Leadership in July of 2011 from Liberty University.

She is involved with various aspects of the Maryland community, including volunteer

work with charitable organizations, and is also a member of the Merrill Special Needs Network which concentrates on helping families of children with disabilities. In connection to this focus, Josie obtained her Chartered Special Needs Consultant®, (ChSNC®) designation from The American College in 2014. This allows her to assist parents and caregivers to prepare for the future of an individual with special needs.

Josie attained her Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor™, CRPC™ designation from College for Financial Planning Institutes Corp. in 2008.

Josie went on to attain the CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER, certificant designation, awarded by the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. in July of 2011.

With a focus on collaborating with individuals and businesses to help them pursue their financial goals, Josie utilizes the banking tools and services available at Bank of America and the investment resources of Merrill to help clients carefully select investments based on their risk tolerance and goals. When you chose to work with Josie, you can expect to have a long-term relationship focused on pursuing your specific objectives.

I follow the deep-seated Merrill tradition of participating in the communities we serve. This drives my interest in spending time volunteering with organizations in our community.

5:40 – 5:50 BREAK

5:50 – 6:50 p.m.

.1 CEUs

NCRA Learning Objections Section 3.08c, 3.10 i

DAVID ROBINSON

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Title: Why You Can (and Should!) Work Toward Financial Independence, Even On a Modest Salary

"By the time David Robinson was in his early 20s, he was drowning in 5 figures of credit card and student loan debt and he never had more than a few hundred dollars to his name. He realized the unsustainable path he was on at age 23 and spent years going from feeling defeated and not confident around money to learning to save and invest a portion of his paycheck. This has allowed him to step away from a stressful, unfulfilling

career into early retirement where he now spends his time pursuing his real passion: helping others get control of their money and work towards financial independence.

In this presentation, you'll hear his story and get actionable tips on how to get clarity around your financial situation, how to get control of your spending and debt, and how to invest towards financial independence. You'll also learn how investing can be simple and you don't need to be an expert in finance or pay for any flashy online courses you frequently see on the internet. All court reporters, regardless of income level or age, will benefit from this session."

BIO:

David Robinson is a financial coach who specializes in guiding early retirees and individuals seeking a career transition or break from work. After accumulating significant credit card and student loan debt in his younger years, David had a turning point at age 22. He took charge of his finances, learning how to manage his spending as well as start investing. As he navigated his own financial journey, David noticed many colleagues struggling with similar challenges. This sparked a passion to help others achieve financial stability and freedom. Today, David operates a unique, donation-based financial coaching practice, offering free guidance and mentorship to those seeking to improve their financial well-being and use money to create their very best lives.

6:45 – 6:55 BREAK

6:55 – 7:55

.1 CEUs

NCRA Learning Objections Section 3.10 a, c, f

CHRIS DEGRAZIO

Title: Sip and Paint Brief Exchange

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Whether you're sipping on water, wine, or something in between, join us on September 20th at 6:55 p.m. ET for some no-skill-required painting and valuable brief-sharing. We all learned different theories, so come prepared with a handful of your favorite, easiest-to-remember, and/or most-used briefs! If you'd like to share some of your best briefs in advance, email them to Chris DeGrazio at sokhacambodian@yahoo.com with "Sip & Paint Brief Exchange" as the subject line so Chris can include them in the presentation. Or come and share them during the Zoom

so Chris can add them in realtime. Attendees will receive the briefs in PDF version afterward. Chris will talk about how incorporating briefs into your every day writing can help you write cleaner and how writing shorter can increase your words per minute, helping you to pass those certifications, Chris will talk about the importance of work-life balance as he shares personal anecdotes and how finding an artistic medium can become the cornerstone of managing the stress that inherently comes with being a stenographic court reporter.

Bio:

Chris DeGrazio is a freelance court reporter in his fifth year of reporting in Fort Pierce, Florida. He currently chairs NCRA's Membership, Marketing, & Outreach Committee and is in his fifth year of serving on other committees for NCRA. He facilitates the 90 - Day Testing Challenge, hosts weekly RPR/RMR practice sessions, and hosts student giveaways during the holidays and at the national conferences. He's recently presented at the NCRA conference in Louisville in 2024, as well as at the Michigan Association of Professional Court Reporters' Convention in March of this year.

Sunday:

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

0.1 CEUs

Edgar Galeano

TITLE: Building your business from the ground up, managing, leading, and developing a client base

NCRA Learning Objective Sections 3.08 a & d

Course Description: As an experienced salesman, Edgar will present on his journey of customer service, the importance of building interpersonal relationships, and the how-to of building and maintaining a client base.

Bio:

Experienced Branch Service Manager with a demonstrated history of working in the consumer goods industry. Strong operations professional skilled in Microsoft Word, Sales, English, Management, and HTML.

Edgar has been with Milwaukee Tool for just over nine years, and has excelled in his career with exceptional customer service skills and professionalism. He started his customer service/sales career back in 2003 and has held multiple roles since then, honing his craft and becoming an expert in his field. Since being with Milwaukee Tool, he has consistently outpaced any and all sales goals by multiple percentages.

At home, Edgar has a wife (a stenographer) and two kids, Luca (5 years old) and Aviana (3 years old). He spends time enjoying the kids, working on the home, and has various outside hobbies.

Break 9:00 – 9:10

9:10 – 10:10 a.m. ET

.10

ANTHONY FRISOLONE:

NCRA Section 3.02 a, g, m The Reporting Profession, the Law, and the Courts

TITLE: Lights, Camera, Steno! High-Profile Trials

Course Description: High-profile courtroom trials captivate public attention, shape societal debates, and often redefine legal precedents. This seminar provides an in-depth exploration of the unique challenges and opportunities that accompany cases under the spotlight. In this seminar, Anthony will also talk about how court reporters can use our front row seat to history as a recruiting tool to attract people interested in becoming court reporters.

In this session, the attendee will learn about Anthony's experience covering some of the most exciting and news-making trials having national and international implications.

Anthony has been a part of the Eastern District's court reporting team on the R. Kelly criminal trial, the El Chapo Guzman trial, including many terrorism cases. Anthony will discuss the Eastern District's history of high-profile cases dating back to World War II and through the years. Anthony will also discuss what it means to have a top secret security clearance and what steps are taken to safeguard sensitive court proceedings.

Bio:

Anthony D. Frisolone, FAPR, RDR, CRR, CRC, CRI, CSR

Anthony Frisolone's career as a court reporter spans close to three decades working in New York City. Currently, he is an Official Court Reporter for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York in Brooklyn, New York. Anthony served as the New York State Court Reporters Association president from 2004-2006 after serving on NYSCRA's Board of Directors and Executive Board beginning in 1998 as a Director for the First Department.

Anthony has also served on the board of the United States Court Reporters Association from 2016-2017 and the Federal Courts Court Reporters Advisory Group from 2014-2018. Anthony has authored close to three dozen articles that have been published in the Journal of Court Reporting. Anthony is a frequent seminar presenter on a variety of professional issues with a focus on software training.

Section 3.04 Court Reporting Software and Technology

a. CAT software

CAT TRAINING:

1:00 – 2:00

2:00 – 2:10 BREAK

2:10 – 3:10

3:10 – 3:20 BREAK

3:20 – 4:20

Eclipse Power Tools: Tips, Tricks & Hidden Gems Presented by Ashli Van Dyke

Whether you're a new Eclipse user or a seasoned pro, this session is packed with practical strategies to help you get more from your software. Join Ashli Van Dyke for an energetic and informative webinar exploring some of the most powerful, underutilized features in Eclipse — from simple tweaks to game-changing tools.

We'll dive into methods for increasing translation consistency and boosting your efficiency both in realtime and during editing. Learn how to make the most of features like Auto-brief, Boost, and Boost Flow, as well as discover time-saving plugins, number formatting options, punctuation control, and more.

Ashli will share real-world tips that are easy to implement and instantly helpful — whether you're reporting a fast-paced trial, managing remote depositions, or cleaning up transcripts with speed and confidence.

If you've ever wondered, "Am I really using Eclipse to its full potential?" — this session is for you. Bring your curiosity and leave with tools, tricks, and inspiration to elevate your work.

Bio:

Ashli was born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona, moving to Florida and joining the Advantage Software team in 2010. At Advantage, Ashli got her start in tech support, and she quickly netted a reputation as a go-to person for help with extraordinary Eclipse questions and for discussing ideas. Over the years she has worked intimately with the Eclipse development team and has played a key role in many version releases. She has been involved with product research, quality assurance, technical writing, and customer education. She especially loves demoing the benefits of Eclipse and showing off its

latest features!

Ashli also manages and produces all the video content on Advantage Software's official YouTube channel. She uploads new content weekly and keeps it fresh on everything Eclipse, Bridge Mobile, and more.

CASE CATALYST:

Presented by Anthony Frisolone:

Improving Your Skills and Productivity

In this training session, Anthony will be doing a deep dive into customizing your editing screen for the ultimate in personalization. Then, he will discuss how to better organize your files, finally Anthony will discuss how to create and implement AccelerWriters.

BIO:

Anthony D. Frisolone, FAPR, RDR, CRR, CRC, CRI, CSR

Anthony Frisolone's career as a court reporter spans close to three decades working in New York City. Currently, he is an Official Court Reporter for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York in Brooklyn, New York. Anthony served as the New York State Court Reporters Association president from 2004-2006 after serving on NYSCRA's Board of Directors and Executive Board beginning in 1998 as a Director for the First Department.

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****There will be poll questions during each session, as well a survey for every presenter. Attendance for each session taken (and tracked) during the event.**